



Wilton Park



UN CLIMATE  
CHANGE  
CONFERENCE  
UK 2021

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ITALY

## **COP26 Catalyst for Climate Action: Open consultation on Capacity Building for Access to Finance**

**Thursday 14 October 2021**

**0330-0500 Eastern Daylight Time; 0830-1000 British Summer Time; 1030-1200  
East Africa Time; 1630-1830 Japan Standard Time;**

**Zoom meeting: [Register here](#)**

### **COP26 Catalyst for Climate Action**

The Paris Agreement provides us with a truly global framework for climate ambition and action. To unlock the full scope of the Paris Agreement, it is important that all countries can participate to their maximum potential and that a lack of capacity does not hold them back.

In its role as the incoming COP26 Presidency, the UK is committed to better understanding the capacity building challenges faced by developing countries and climate finance recipients, particularly those most vulnerable to climate impacts, and to providing opportunities to share positive experiences and lessons learned across the world.

### **Session background**

The COP26 Catalyst for Climate Action (COP26 Catalyst) is a UK COP26 Presidency initiative that will provide a framework to convene programmes, projects and expertise on capacity building across five thematic areas. The Access to Finance workstream under the COP26 Catalyst aims to unpack the overarching capacity building issue to understand in granular detail the issues vulnerable and least developed countries and climate finance recipients are facing and the practical actions and support they need to access finance.

The COP26 Catalyst Access to Finance Workstream has convened an Action Group representing diverse partners, which has been developing recommendations to address challenges to capacity building for access to finance. This session will present the key challenges and opportunities identified by the COP26 Catalyst Action Group on Access to Finance and seek further advice, input and feedback on practical solutions from stakeholder groups and practitioners.

The COP26 Catalyst's Access to Finance workstream complements the work of the Taskforce on Access to Climate Finance, which launched at the C&DM, but is separate from that initiative. The COP26 Catalyst's Access to Finance workstream responds to the need partners have raised during the conceptualisation of the Taskforce, as a forum to consider issues of institutional capacity to improve access to finance.

*This is a draft programme and subject to amendments.*

### **Session description**

This session will present in detail the key challenges to access to finance and proposed solutions developed by the Access to Finance Action Group. This session is to seek advice, input and feedback from stakeholder groups and practitioners. The session is open to all, with particular outreach to the UNFCCC stakeholder constituencies.

### **Session Objectives**

- Consider early suggestions to support capacity building for access to finance, based on work of the COP26 Catalyst Access to Finance Activity Group
- Hear if any challenges to access to finance that may be improved through capacity building have not been considered by the Action Group
- Hear responses from participants to proposed solutions
- Consider implementation and resourcing challenges for possible solutions
- Consider in more detail what providers of finance might be able to do to support capacity building for access to finance and refinement of initiatives to support access more broadly.

Simultaneous translation will be available in English, French and Spanish.

### **Agenda**

<b>Time (UK)</b>	<b>Theme and speakers</b> (Speakers invited * denotes not confirmed)
0830-0840	<b>COP26 Catalyst for Climate Action: Access to Finance</b>  <b><u>Introductions</u></b>  <b>Chair: Nancy Lee</b> Programme Director, Wilton Park  <b>Meera Murali</b> Finance Negotiations, COP26 UK Presidency
0840-0915	<b>Session 1: Access to Climate Finance: Addressing challenges to access to finance</b>  <b><u>Summary of challenges raised in Access to Finance Action Group to date:</u></b>  <b>Tessa Vaetoru</b> Development Programme Manager, Ministry of Finance and Economic Management, Government of the Cook Islands (5 min)  <b><u>Perspectives from Finance Providers</u></b> <b>Tshewang Dorji</b> Climate Change Specialist, Green Climate Fund

*This is a draft programme and subject to amendments.*

	<p><b><u>Proposals for addressing challenges- high level summary</u></b></p> <p><b>Bertha Argueta</b> Representative, COP26 Catalyst Access to Finance Working Group Policy Advisor, Climate Finance and Development, Germanwatch</p> <p><b><u>Reflections from Constituencies</u></b></p> <p><b>Helen Biangalen-Magata</b> TEBTEBBA, Indigenous People's International Centre for Policy Research and Education, Philippines</p> <p>Questions and comments from participants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Any key challenges not mentioned?</li></ul>
--	--

*This is a draft programme and subject to amendments.*

0915-0955	<p><b><u>Session 2: Review of solutions in detail with suggestions for practical next steps from participants:</u></b></p> <p><b>Bertha Argueta</b> Representative, COP26 Catalyst Access to Finance Working Group Policy Advisor, Climate Finance and Development, Germanwatch</p> <p>Perspectives from all participants on practical next steps to take forward proposed solutions and specifically thoughts on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ How to ensure buy-in from both providers and recipients of capacity building and finance (often the same organisations)?<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ for turning principles into action (improving criteria)</li><li>■ for climate mainstreaming/climate proofing</li></ul></li><li>○ Which is the best way to improve coordination of initiatives<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ National level? International level?</li><li>■ Existing platforms or mechanisms that could be a good basis for this?</li></ul></li><li>○ Who is best placed to conduct and promote some of the big transformational changes at the international level?<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Development of non-prescriptive criteria?</li><li>■ Forum for finance providers?</li><li>■ Establishing/improving mechanisms for coordination?</li><li>■ Building capacity of finance providers?</li></ul></li><li>○ How do we implement transformational change at the national level?<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Address the “brain drain”</li><li>■ National level coordination</li><li>■ Reaching the local level, including non-government stakeholders</li></ul></li></ul>
0955-1000	<p><b>Closing remarks and next steps</b></p> <p><b>Nancy Lee</b> Programme Director, Wilton Park</p>